

and committed to the rule of law, Taiwan is a model for emerging democracies in the region and throughout the world. It is a vibrant reminder that freedom is a universal ideal.

We rightly consider any effort to hinder Taiwan's self-determination as a threat to regional peace. The United States must continue to stand behind our commitment to Taiwan and the military and trading partnerships we enjoy with this major regional economy. We must also support Taiwan's strong desire for much-deserved membership in the United Nations.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful for dependable allies like Taiwan. The relationship between our two nations has been to the cultural, economic, and political benefit of both. We send our greetings and best wishes to the people of Taiwan as they mark their centennial next week.

ADMONISHING ANTI-DEMOCRATIC STATEMENTS

HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, at a constituent event in Inglewood, California, on August 21, 2011, the Congresswoman who represents that area made several shocking and egregious statements that slander the good work a dedicated group of Americans are trying to achieve for our country. Perhaps most disturbing was her statement that, "As far as I'm concerned the Tea Party can go straight to hell. And . . . and, I intend to help them get there." These words do nothing to unite Americans and only fan the flames that incite division. Earlier in August, following the highly charged debt limit discussions, with words worsening the political divide, the Vice President declared that the Tea Party had "acted like terrorists." These attacks are an assault on democracy. Any action which ignores deep-seated concerns, or attempts to extinguish the voices of millions of Americans damages the democratic process. The Tea Party is united in common concern for the future and the well-being of generations to come. They are not, as one Congressman from Pennsylvania described, a "small group of terrorists." These are people who care deeply about the path our country is on and are working through the issues. They are present at parades, marches and rallies. They are gathering in meeting halls, restaurants, and family rooms to discuss their goals for our nation's future. Words that dismiss the Tea Party's shared belief that government can do better by the people of this country only further divide us. We have only our voices to change the hearts and minds of elected officials. Those of us entrusted by the people to support and defend the Constitution of the United States must never work to extinguish the light of democracy or the avenue of free speech. To limit the excitement and drive of a united group grows dejection; a certain foe of democracy. It casts a web of doubt over the activities of the Congress and threatens to harm the creation of good public policy. I will defend the right of any man, woman, or child to speak their truth and share their concerns. Just as all Americans regardless of race or gender, creed

or religion, ideals or personal conviction, Tea Party members deserve to have their voices heard.

RECOGNIZING ELSA HOMINDA OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON FOR HER WORK WITH ADOPTED CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN WASHINGTON STATE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Elsa Hominda, for her outstanding advocacy for adopted children in Washington State and for being a 2011 Angels in Adoption honoree. I am pleased to join Senator PATTY MURRAY in recognizing Elsa's dedicated work with local adoptees, their families, and birth parents.

Elsa is a Search and Reunion Specialist at the Children's Home Society of Washington, a non-profit organization devoted to strengthening and supporting Washington's children and families. Elsa and her husband are also the proud parents of three adopted children, ages 5, 11, and 12.

As a confidential intermediary at the Children's Home Society of Washington, Elsa acts as a neutral third-party to facilitate reunions between adoptees and birth parents. She serves as a counselor and mediator to the child or parent who is undertaking a search and helps to make what is often a very emotional and difficult process just a bit easier.

Through her work, she has helped many individuals. One personal story that I found particularly moving involved a gentleman who was placed in an adoptive home over 50 years ago and who recently embarked on the poignant journey to find his birth mother.

With the help of Ms. Hominda, this individual was able to reunite with his biological mother through a series of letters, emails, and eventually, a face-to-face reunion—a process that took several months. He is incredibly grateful for all the hard work Elsa did to facilitate the reunion and feels as though he has a new addition to his family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in honoring Elsa Hominda, whose work reuniting Washington's adopted children with their birth families enriches the lives of everyone touched by the process of adoption.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLIAM G. ROHRER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the fiftieth anniversary of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library in Haddon Township. For the past half century this valuable community asset has steadfastly served the citizens of Haddon Township. This past summer, the library was forced to temporarily close after

suffering damage from an unfortunate water main break. Undeterred, library staff worked diligently to reopen as soon as possible. Reflecting the great value and importance of this library, community members lined up at the door for the reopening of their cherished and loved library.

The staff of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library also deserves particular recognition. It is through their hard work that this library has come to be so cherished by the people of Haddon Township. Their efforts have made the library a great success over the past fifty years and will continue to earn the support and admiration of the community for many more to come. To celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the library, local leaders, entertainers, and citizens came together to mark this important milestone with a day of reading, fun, and games.

Mr. Speaker, the fiftieth anniversary of the William G. Rohrer Memorial Library and the dedication demonstrated by its staff should not go unrecognized. I congratulate them on fifty great years, thank them for their service to the community, and wish them all the success in the future.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM "WHERE IS THE PEACE DIVIDEND? EXAMINING THE FINAL REPORT TO CONGRESS OF THE COMMISSION ON WARTIME CONTRACTING"

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the committee for holding this important hearing on the future of our presence in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As one of the first Members of Congress to oppose the war in Iraq and as one who has forced debate on the war in Afghanistan a number of times in the House, I continue to be deeply concerned by the findings of the Commission on Wartime Contracting (CWC) in Iraq and Afghanistan. The latest and final report highlights continued privatization of inherently governmental functions, a significant lack of oversight of contingency contractors who in many cases, are providing vital support services for our personnel on the ground, and an estimated waste of up to \$60 billion thus far. Many of us were on this committee last year when it released a report ("Warlord Inc.") detailing the use of U.S. taxpayer dollars to pay off warlords in Afghanistan and essentially fuel the very insurgency we are trying to quell.

At a time when vital social services here at home are being cut in the name of fiscal responsibility, we would do well to take the recommendations and findings included in the final report of the CWC very seriously. It is clear from the Commission's reports that the U.S. Government has privatized the business of war to such a point where we are guaranteed to continue to see billions of dollars go unaccounted for and bad actors in Iraq and Afghanistan act with total impunity. And as the Commission points out, there will be another contingency operation.

The truth is that we cannot afford these wars. According to Congressional Research

Service, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have cost us over one trillion dollars. Estimates by Joseph Stiglitz and Linda Blimes put that number at closer to \$5 trillion when you include the long-term costs associated with caring for returning veterans.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is essential to take this time to promote breast cancer awareness, share information on the disease, emphasize the importance of screenings and continue to work towards a cure.

Early detection is of the utmost importance for women of all ages. The 2.5 million breast cancer survivors through the U.S. are a testament to the importance of breast cancer awareness and following recommended screening guidelines. I strongly encourage women to follow the recommended mammography screening guidelines and to perform self-exams. Early detection saves lives!

A woman receives a diagnosis of breast cancer every two minutes, making this disease one of the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women in the United States. Despite tremendous advances in treatment and prevention, it remains the second leading cause of cancer death. I am proud to support the National Breast Cancer Coalition's Breast Cancer Deadline 2020, a call to end breast cancer by January 1, 2020. This initiative focuses on determining how to prevent the development of breast cancer and metastasis and renews the sense of urgency to eradicate this disease.

It is my privilege to work with dedicated volunteers, patients, caregivers and survivors from organizations such as Susan G. Komen for the Cure, National Breast Cancer Coalition, the American Cancer Society and so many others. Their tireless work is an inspiration and a reminder that we must keep up the fight until there is a cure.

IN HONOR OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER AT THE GERARD CARTER COMMUNITY CENTER

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Time Warner Cable, the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island and the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development for their efforts in the construction of a new, state-of-the-art technology center in on Staten Island.

The Technology Center at the Gerard Carter Community Center, sponsored by Time Warner Cable and the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island, is fully equipped with the newest computers, high-speed Internet, flat screen and high definition televisions and edu-

cational software to help Americans succeed in the 21st Century. The hard-working residents of Staten Island can now take advantage of modern technology to train and search for 21st century jobs.

Facilities like the Gerard Carter Community Center provide state-of-the-art tools for displaced workers to update their skills and regain their competitive advantage in the labor market. It also provides a place for students to utilize the latest technology to further their education.

I applaud Time Warner Cable and the Gerard Carter Community Center for giving Stapleton residents access to the latest technology. I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding Time Warner Cable and the Gerard Community Center to create the Technology Center—its ventures like this give the unemployed and the underemployed the opportunity and the encouragement they need to take back their lives and get to work.

HONORING THE DEER LAKES AA BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2011 Deer Lakes High School Boys Volleyball Team. This past season, the team won the WPIAL championship as well as the Pennsylvania State Championship. I congratulate them on an outstanding season and commend their hard work in winning both prestigious titles.

Over the course of their season, the team showed remarkable consistency while displaying exemplary team play. Incredibly, the team did not lose a match all season.

I would also like to give special recognition to two members of the team who played to the best of their abilities each and every game. Tony Nicotra and Jeremy Gaston deserve praise for their team leadership and work ethic throughout the season. Their hard work was rewarded when they received the co-most valuable player award for both the WPIAL and state tournaments.

In addition, a team is only as good as the coaching staff that stands behind their players. Head coach Richard Tatrn along with assistant coaches BJ Ruyes, Terry Gaston, Joe Giradi, and Kevin Hamilton all deserve recognition for their encouragement, instruction, and leadership throughout their championship season.

I again congratulate the Deer Lakes Boys Volleyball Team's players and coaching staff on all of their achievements. It is with great joy that I pay tribute to this team on their well-deserved accomplishments this season.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE COD TIMES

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the seventy-fifth anniversary of the

Cape Cod Times, a daily newspaper circulated throughout the towns and villages of Massachusetts' Cape and Islands.

Seventy-five years ago, businessmen J.P. Dunn and Basil Brewer came together in a Hyannis garage to publish the Cape Cod Standard-Times. This union grew out of the men's desire to provide the residents of the Cape and Islands with access to community news, so they teamed up with the New Bedford Standard-Times for joint distribution through the 1960s. By 1970, however, the success of local small businesses and industries had brought an era of expansion to the region, augmenting the need for a local paper to service the needs and interests of the unique communities of the Cape and Islands. In 1975, the first Cape Cod Times edition was published as an "independent Cape Cod newspaper, printed and published on the Cape, by Cape Codders, for Cape Codders."

Today, the Cape Cod Times provides over 60,000 readers in the region with daily headlines of national and local relevance—from summer beach closings to breaking news across the globe. The paper's circulation reaches beyond the Cape and Islands through its online subscription, allowing readers to stay up-to-date on community happenings no matter their location.

Time and time again, the paper has been recognized for its national significance, having been named to such prestigious awards as "Newspaper of the Year," "Website of the Year" and "Sunday Newspaper of the Year" by the New England Press Association, the New England Newspaper Association, and the New England Associated Press Executives Association.

Having owned a home on Cape Cod for twenty years, it is with pride and gratitude that I congratulate the Cape Cod Times, its editors and staff on providing seventy-five years of authentic journalism to the people of the Tenth Congressional District of Massachusetts. I extend my best wishes to the paper for many more years of award-winning journalism to come.

HONORING WILLIAM ENSIGN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of William Ensign a respected and jovial Toledoan whose ethic of public service resulted in his being elected Mayor of Toledo in 1967, and then reelected again in 1971. We offer our condolences to his wife of 61 years, Joan, their children Maria, Kimberly, Madonna, Christopher, Joel and Thomas, as well as their families.

William J. Ensign was born in 1924. He grew up in Cleveland and went on to serve as a Marine in the Pacific Theatre in World War II. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in sociology and criminology from the University of Notre Dame. He came to Toledo in 1951 to work in the legal system until he became the director of the county welfare agency in 1963, a position he held until he was elected Mayor of Toledo in 1967. He was re-elected by a landslide in 1969. He resigned in 1971 after then Ohio Governor John